PRAYING PSALM 139

"Search me, O God, and know my heart..." (Psalm 139:33).

This is a psalm about the attributes of God. This is the God we worship. This is the God of the Bible. 1. GOD IS OMNISCIENT (1-6). "O Lord, You have searched me and know me." God knows everything. He knows: how many times you get up and down, your thoughts, your steps, what you do every moment, what you are going to say before you say it, where to precede you and where to follow you, when to bless you and when to withhold blessings from you. God knows more about you than you know about yourself. 2. GOD IS OMNIPRESENT (7-12). You can't escape God's Spirit. You can't flee God's presence: If you go up to heaven, if you go down to hell (the grave), in the morning, on the ocean, in the darkness, He is there. You can't run from God. 3. GOD IS OMNIPOTENT (13-18). God designed the intricate parts of your body. He watched and made you in the womb. He saw you before you came out of the womb. God's thoughts about you are more than the sands of the sea. He knows when you wake up and when you sleep. He knows every breath you take. He knew when you drew your first breath. Creating a person takes as much power as creating a universe. A fetus is a creation that requires the power of the Almighty. 4. GOD IS OMNIRIGHTEOUS (19-24). The hatred of the sinner in this psalm is not an emotion but a principle. God hates the sinner who loves and refuses to repent for his sin. Ultimately we should do the same. The last sentence of the psalm shows the difference between a person who hates his sin and one who doesn't. "You have searched me and known me and know my heart" (23). A person who loves his sin cares nothing about the condition of his heart.

The message of this psalm is simple. Ask God to search you. Acknowledge that He knows you. When you lie to yourself, you lie to God also. Don't try to cover up what you know. Admit it to yourself; Confess it to God. Instead of running from God run to Him. He is the God of mercy. Thank God for designing you. Accept who you are as a creation of God. Quit trying to change yourself, and leave the alterations to the One who designed you. Search your heart, and know it. Let the Spirit of God search you. You won't know your own heart until you allow Him to reveal it to you. "See" and "lead" are the operative words in this psalm. Let God see. Let God lead. It all starts with "Search me..."